



PROPOSAL EVALUATION

IRWM Grant Program – Planning Grant, Round 2, FY 2011-2012

Applicant	Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council	County	Madera
		Grant Request	\$ 271,438
		Total Project Cost	\$ 370,074
Project Title	Madera Region IRWMP Update 2012		

Project Description This Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) will document the collective approach of the Region and its stakeholders to water management to deal with water supply, water quality, climate change, and flood management. The main objectives of the IRWMP are water resource management optimization, evaluating and increasing water supplies, water quality protection and improvement, climate change mitigation/adaptation and flood control planning. This Proposal request will update the current IRWMP from Proposition 50 standards to Proposition 84 standards.

Evaluation Summary

Scoring Criterion	Score
Work Plan	15
DAC Involvement	10
Schedule	5
Budget	10
Program Preferences	5
Tie Breaker	0
Total Score	45

- **Work Plan** The criterion is fully addressed and supported by thorough and well-presented documentation and logical rationale. The Work Plan is well-organized and follows the Prop 84 IRWM Guidelines closely. The Work Plan provides background information of what the Madera Region has accomplished thus far and includes specific work items planned for the IRWMP update. Table 3.1 shows the critical gaps in the existing IRWMP, and identifies how the proposed work for the IRWM Plan update will address the deficiencies. The Work Plan demonstrates that a standards compliant IRWM Plan will be produced.
- **DAC Involvement** The criterion is fully addressed and supported by thorough and well-presented documentation and logical rationale. The Work Plan indicates that most of Madera County and the vast majority of towns and communities within its borders meet the definition of a DAC. DAC outreach and involvement is discussed. DACs will be prioritized and mapped, and a preliminary list has been prepared. Specific criteria (e.g., classification as a Severely DAC (<60% MHI), water quality problems, water reliability, existing infrastructure) for selecting high-priority DACs will be established and documented. Disadvantaged tribal communities will also be considered. As part of the IRWMP update, a comprehensive DAC Outreach Plan will be prepared, which includes protocols and goals for engaging DACs in the near-term and long-term future. The Plan will also describe efforts to engage NGOs that assist DACs. Three special meetings led by a professional facilitator will be held with high-priority DACs to explain the purpose and benefits of an IWMP; encourage DACs to join the RWMG; identify DAC problems, concerns, and priorities with water resources; and identify specific projects that could benefit the DACs. The Applicant demonstrates awareness of challenges that will need to be met to increase DAC participation (e.g., internet access, transportation), and will hold the special meetings in the DACs to give



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the residents and local water managers opportunity to participate. Task 7.4 (pp. 3-15 to 3-16) and Section 3.J (pp. 3-30 to 3-31) describe the activities that will be undertaken to increase DAC participation.

- **Schedule** The criterion is fully addressed and supported by thorough and well-presented documentation and logical rationale. The Schedule provides a good level of detail, including milestones, and is consistent with respect to the Work Plan and Budget. Tasks 1-5 have been completed (governance and policy documents, RAP application, facilitator grant application, consultant selection for IRWMP update, IRWMP planning grant application). The schedule for the remaining tasks is in the table entitled, “Madera Region Regional Water Management Group Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update Proposed Schedule.” The remaining tasks are broken down into sub-tasks. The Schedule corresponds with the main sub-tasks and shows the time allocated to complete each chapter of the draft IRWMP update. According to the schedule, some of the special DAC outreach meetings and special governance workshops will be held before grant funds are awarded. These activities are considered part of the cost-share part of the project.
- **Budget** The criterion is fully addressed and supported by thorough and well-presented documentation and logical rationale. The Budget is specific, provides documentation of hourly rates, and is consistent with the Schedule and the Work Plan. There are explanations of how the budget estimates were developed. The cost-share portion of the Budget is 27%, of which about half were for in-kind services, already rendered, to complete Tasks 1-5: governance and policy documents, RAP application, facilitator grant application, consultant selection for IRWMP update, and the IRWMP planning grant application. The remainder of the cost-share portion is for future in-kind work by RWMG members. Awarded grant funds will be used to pay for grant administration (<4%), with the remainder to pay for consultants’ costs.
- **Program Preference** The application contained sufficient justification for 13 of the 15 Program Preferences.
- **Tie Breaker** Not Applicable.